



Bevin reaffirms push to oust lawmakers involved in deal

Metro, 3A



Courier Journal

Louisville, Kentucky

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017 ☒ COURIERJOURNAL.COM

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‘The next big thing’

The hemp plant, marijuana’s non-intoxicating cousin, has been used to make more than 25,000 products from beer to clothing, fuel, cosmetics and alternative medicine

Inside

- Can you get high off hemp? We’ll help clear the fog about marijuana’s ‘kissing cousin.’ **6A**
- Can you legally buy CBD oil and other items? **7A**
- Ready to try hemp? It may be closer than you think in some surprising stores. **7A**
- Hemp has a steep climb before it can overtake Kentucky’s other top crops. **8A**

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Beth Warren Louisville Courier Journal – USA TODAY NETWORK

To some it seems taboo. But a nationally renowned pain doctor says a four-letter word can ease aches and anxiety without the risk of addiction: H-E-M-P. ☒ “It’s gonna be the next big thing,” said Dr. James Patrick Murphy, a former president of the Greater Louisville Medical Society who treats patients in Kentucky and Indiana. ☒ Hemp won’t alleviate acute pain, Murphy said, but it can lessen more moderate pain — allowing some patients to reduce or stop taking addictive pain pills that fuel the heroin and opioid epidemic. ☒ With Louisville losing an average of one person a day to drug overdoses, doctors and patients are scrambling to find safer ways to treat pain. ☒ The U.S. Food and Drug Administration hasn’t approved hemp products for use as medicine, and clinical trials on cannabinoids or CBD oil — extracted from the hemp flower — are pending. But Murphy and other doctors see the oil as a promising option, and many people who are trying it for themselves say it works. **See HEMP, Page 7A**

Climate change could be brutal on region

James Bruggers
Louisville Courier Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Climate change will push the Ohio River and its tributaries into uncharted waters, setting off economic and environmental crises like never before across a 13-state region. That’s the conclusion of a new U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report that hits close to home. It found that flood-

ing, drought and power failures could become more frequent in Kentucky and Indiana — and the rest of the Ohio River basin. “The changes are happening today,” said Kathleen D. White, a climate change expert at the Corps headquarters who oversaw development of the study. “This isn’t something that’s just in the future.” The study makes the case that a healthy Ohio River is essential to the

MORE INSIDE

- ☒ Check out key findings of the Army Corps of Engineers report. **12A**
- ☒ See the river basin boundaries. **12A**

United States for industrial manufacturing, power generation, drinking water supplies, transportation of goods

See CLIMATE, Page 12A



A barge moves up the Ohio River past Louisville’s skyline. MATT STONE/CJ

USA TODAY
Critics revive Watergate-era question in light of former security adviser’s guilty plea. **1B**

So this is the Christian way?
A Kentucky student doesn’t want to pray in school, Gerth writes. Now he’s being bullied. **Metro, 3A**

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High 62° ☒ Low 44°
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